

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This application is in response to the amendment filed on November 17, 2009.
2. Claims 7, 26 and 32 have been amended. Claims 1, 3, 5-8 and 24-41 are pending.

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Timothy Dyll (Reg. No. 62,796) on February 10, 2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1:

A method comprising:

intercepting at an agent residing on a processor-controlled server a first request to grant a web service customer access to a first web service, the agent residing between the web service customer and the first web service and between the web service customer and a second web service;

collecting at the agent one or more authentication credentials of the web service customer;

determining at the agent whether the web service customer is authenticated and authorized;

if the web service customer is authenticated and authorized, at the agent: granting the first request; initiating creation of a session and a session ticket; obtaining a session ticket ID for the session ticket; and

encrypting the session ticket ID and a public key into an assertion; intercepting at the agent a second request to grant the web service customer access to the second web service, the second request comprising the assertion and a signature associated with a private key; and

if the private key matches the public key in the assertion, granting at the agent the second request without reauthenticating or reauthorizing the web service customer.

Claim 7:

A method comprising:

intercepting at an agent residing on a processor-controlled server a request to grant a web service customer access to a first web service, the agent residing between the web service customer and the first web service and between the web service customer and a second web service, the request comprising an encrypted assertion and a signature associated with a private key, the encrypted assertion comprising a public key and a session ticket ID for a session ticket obtained prior to the request and in response to authentication and authorization of the web service customer for access to the second web service; and

if the private key matches the [a] public key in the assertion, granting at the agent the second request without reauthenticating or reauthorizing the web service customer.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

1. Claims 1, 3, 5-8 and 24-41 are allowed.
2. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: None of the prior art on record either taken singularly or in combination teaches ***"encrypting the session ticket ID and a public key into an assertion; intercepting at the agent a second request to grant the web service customer access to the second web service, the second request comprising the assertion and a signature associated with a private key; and if the private key matches the public key in the assertion, granting at the agent the second request without reauthenticating or reauthorizing the web service customer"*** including all the other limitations recited in claim 1.
3. Independent claims 7, 26 and 32 includes similar limitations as recited in claim 1 are therefore also allowed for the same reason set forth above.
4. Dependent claims 3, 5-6, 8, 24-25, 27-31, 33-41 are also allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SHEWAYE GELAGAY whose telephone number is (571)272-4219. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am to 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on 571-272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Shewaye Gelagay/  
Examiner, Art Unit 2437

/Matthew B Smithers/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2437